DEMOCRATIC

GERMAN REPORT

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"Let's Discuss Eden Plan"

SOVIETS PROPOSE NOVEMBER TALKS

The Four Great Powers should meet this November to discuss free all-German elections, the withdrawal of all occupation troops, and the holding of a European Security Conference.

These were the main proposals made by the Soviet Government in notes addressed on October 23rd to Britain, France and the United States.

In this note the Soviet Government stated that following the defeat of the European Defence Community it was ready to discuss the "Eden Plan" for all-German elections put before the Berlin conference in January 1954 by British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden.

Main points of the Eden Plan are that all-German elections should be prepared and supervised by the Four Occupying Powers "with or without the participation of neutrals." The National Assembly thus elected would then draft a constitution and form an all-German Government, which in turn could begin to negotiate a peace treaty. Under the Eden Plan occupation troops would remain in Germany until the conclusion of a peace treaty.

The Soviet Note stated:

"In agreeing to discuss this plan, the Soviet Union assumes that the proposals in this question made by the Soviet Union will also be discussed. The Soviet Union believes that it is possible to reach agreement between the states on this question, if it is recognised that the question of the reunification of Germany on a peaceful and democratic basis is the main problem."

The second main point made in the Soviet Note was the proposal for the immediate withdrawal of occupation troops. In this connection the note stated:

"The Soviet Union proposes that the subject of the withdrawal of occupation troops from the territory of East and West Germany should be discussed, and that such a withdrawal should take place as soon as possible. Such a decision would contribute to a further relaxation of international tension and a stabilisation of peace in Europe.

(continued on next page)

East Berlin Rubble-Free by 1957

All rubble and ruins resulting from the Second World War will have been cleared away in East Berlin by 1957, the city authorities announced on October 20th.

At the end of the war experts estimated that it would take about 50 years to clear the rubble. In fact the vast task of clearing away the approximately 15 million tons of rubble will have been completed in 13 years.

The task of rubble clearance in West Berlin will not be completed before 1961 at the earliest, according to West Berlin official announcements. There was proportionally less damage in West than in East Berlin.

235 DAILY MOVE EAST

Tens of Thousands Chose Peace & Jobs

In the past three months an average of 235 persons daily have moved from West Germany into the German Democratic Republic, according to official statistics published in Berlin on October 16th.

The official total of persons coming from West Germany who sought work and a decent life in the German Democratic Republic amounted to 21,608 during the months of July, August and September 1954.

The total for a full year from October 1st 1953 until September 30th 1954 was 67,155.

A considerable proportion of the persons seeking a home in the German Democratic Republic were East Germans who had moved to West Germany in response to propaganda of the "golden west" put out by RIAS, the official American radio station in West Berlin. After finding out the truth for themselves these persons have moved back into the Democratic Republic, where they are sure of work and steadily improving social conditions.

(continued from front page)

"Let's Discuss Eden Plan"

"At the same time as this question is solved it will be necessary to reach agreement between the Soviet Union, France, Britain and the United States, with participation of the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic, on the strength, stationing and armament of the German police in both East and West Germany. Such an agreement would end all fears regarding the remilitarisation of both East and West Germany.

"It is well known that East Germany has no objections to this proposal, and no objections to an inspection of the present situation on the spot. If West Germany should avoid accepting this proposal it would indicate an attempt to speed up the execution of its remilitarisation plans."

The Soviet Note also severely criticised the Act of London, which provides for the remilitarisation of West Germany. The Soviet Note stated:

"Contrary to the pledges taken by France, Britain and the United States, together with the Soviet Union, not to allow the restoration of German militarism, the separatist agreements of London and Paris provide that in the near future a West German Wehrmacht should be created 500,000 strong, with its own powerful Luftwaffe, with tank units and its own staff.

"Heavy industry in West Germany, and particularly in the Ruhr, will once more be converted to mass production of arms. These forces in West Germany will be headed by the same generals who established the Hitlerite army and who, together with Hitler, carried out acts of aggression against Czechoslovakia, Poland, France, the Soviet Union, Great Britain and many other European states.

"Under such circumstances the pledges which the West German Government is giving today regarding the limitation of the size of the West German army and its armament cannot be taken seriously.

"The lessons of recent history show that once the German militarists and politicians of revenge have started to create their army corps and their divisions they will stop at nothing to increase the size and improve the armament of their army.

"The decisions taken at London open the path to the reestablishment of German militarism. This would give the West German militarists and politicians of revenge a free hand to carry out their aggressive policies in Europe, making West Germany the danger centre of war in Europe.

"If these plans are put into operation, West Germany can no longer be regarded as a peace-loving state, which will make the restoration of German unity impossible for a long time to come.

"The Soviet Government finds it necessary to mention that the agreement of the French Government to the London decisions is in direct contravention of the French-Soviet pact of alliance and aid signed in 1944 . . .

"Proceeding from the points outlined above, the Soviet Government proposes that a conference of the foreign ministers of France, Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union should be summoned in November of this year in order to discuss the following points:

1. The restoration of the unity of Germany on peaceful and democratic basis, and the holding of all-German free elections.

2. The withdrawal of the occupation troops of the Four Powers from the territory of East and West Germany.

3. The summoning of an all-European conference to discuss the question of establishing a system of collective security in Europe."

READY REFERENCE CORNER

Draft Law for All-German Elections

On January 9th 1952, the East German People's Chamber approved a draft law for future All-German elections to a National Assembly. It was proposed that this draft law should be discussed with representatives of the West German parliament, but West German political bosses rejected the approach. The draft law remains valid as the basis on which the East German Government would like to see all-German elections held.

The law is based in all its main provisions on the electoral law of the pre-Hitler German Republic. Only important modification is that voting age would be reduced from 21 to 18.

Here are the main paragraphs of the draft electoral law. Paragraphs omitted for reasons of space deal with technical questions of the provision of polling cabins, the sealing of polling boxes, the public counting of votes, etc.:

Paragraph 1. All citizens are guaranteed freedom of political activity in preparing and carrying out the election. All democratic parties, organisations and associations have full freedom for their activities. They have the right to nominate candidates for the National Assembly, and full freedom of electoral propaganda.

2. The right of free expression of opinion in word, writing, print, picture or in other manner is guaranteed throughout Germany.

3. No-one may be arrested or persecuted because of his political standpoint, nor may his job or position be prejudiced.

6. All limitations on passenger traffic inside Germany, including Greater Berlin, will be removed at the latest 3 months before the elections.

7. Parties presenting candidates have an unlimited right to hold public meetings.

9. The members of the German National Assembly will be elected by German men and women over 18 years of age, in free, general, direct and secret elections, held in accordance with the principles of proportional representation.

14. The date of the election is to be fixed by all-German discussions between representatives of both halves of the country. This date must be published by the authorities in East and West Germany three months in advance.

17. Each of the sixteen provinces of Germany, plus the area of Greater Berlin, constitute electoral districts. Candidatures for each electoral district must be supported by at least 500 signatures from electors.

"We March Against England"

"At the summer festival held in Neu-Wildflecken/Rhoen (in West Germany) . . . at least 80 % of the male guests were members of the Federal Frontier Guard. And what did they sing at the top of their voices and, with deep feeling? The song 'We March Against England'. Apparently these characters want to march once again."

Reader's letter in "Frankfurter Rundschau", West Germany, October 1st 1954.

Industrial Production Doubled

Industrial production in the German Democratic Republic is now twice as high as it was five years ago. This was disclosed in the statistical report on the Five Year Plan for the period July-September 1954, just published in Berlin.

Despite devastating floods during this period, which interrupted production badly in some districts, particularly in open-cast mining and in paper-making, industrial production was up nearly ten percent on the figures for the same period of 1953. There have been particularly large increases in light industrial production. More than twice as much electrical equipment for the household, and 50% more woolen cloth is being produced this year compared to last year.

Capital investments during this quarter have been particularly heavy in the foodstuffs industry (128% up), housing construction (54% up), and electric generating equipment (161% up).

Wages of production workers in industry are 10% higher than one year ago, and the steady wage increases and price reductions have been reflected in the turnover of foodstuffs: compared with the same quarter of 1953, 15% more butter was consumed, 12% more meat, and 33% more fish.

East German Technical Help for India

East Germany will give technical help in the extension of Indian industry under the terms of a trade agreement between the two countries signed in New Delhi on October 16th 1954.

Under the agreement the German Democratic Republic will maintain a permanent trade mission in Bombay with an agency in Calcutta. India will sell minerals, wool, cotton, tea, coffee, dried fruits and many other products to East Germany, and will import in exchange industrial equipment for the sugar, cement and other industries, machine tools, fine mechanical and optical instruments and many other products.

Legal to Sack Strike Pickets

The labour court at Kempten, in West Germany, has decided that a factory owner has the right to sack strike pickets without notice. The decision was given in the case of six strike pickets who were summarily dismissed by the employer after they had picketed their factory during the Bavarian metal workers' strike earlier this year.

EAST GERMANS VOTE FOR PEACE AND RECONSTRUCTION

More than 11,800,000 East Germans voted on October 17th for the candidates of the National Front, the coalition of all democratic parties which provides the present government of the German Democratic Republic. These candidates were pledged to fight for a policy of peaceful reconstruction, good relations with all nations, the reunification of Germany, and against remilitarisation.

Final figures for the election were as follows:

Total electorate: 12,085,380

Total votes cast: 11,892,849

Votes for the candidates of the National Front: 11,828,877

Invalid papers, and votes against the National Front: 63,972.

Early numbers of GERMAN REPORT will bring biographical details of some of the 400 men and women who will represent the people in the newly elected People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic.

Commenting on the election results, the East Berlin newspaper "BZ am Abend" stated:

"Only a small minority voted against the programme of the National Front. The western newspapers, in the service of (West German Chancellor) Adenauer are disappointed, and express their annoyance with the results of the election.

"Adenauer and the Americans may be disappointed that so few people rejected the programme of the National Front. But those who wanted to do this, were naturally able to do it without a hair of their heads being harmed.

"A short while ago, acting with the same unanimity as the people of our Republic, the representatives of the 6,500,000 West German trade unionists voted by 400 votes against 4, that is to say with a 99% majority, against rearmament and the reestablishment of militarism in West Germany.

"The voting at the West German Trade Union Congress, together with the voting in the German Democratic Republic, shows that together the opponents of militarism and war in East and West Germany are an unconquerable force which can lead the whole of Germany to a better future."

Government Subsidies For East German Church

The various churches in the German Democratic Republic are not only guaranteed complete freedom by the constitution, but also receive considerable state subsidies.

The size of these subsidies has been announced by Deputy Prime Minister Otto Nuschke, who is chairman of the East German Christian Democratic Party.

The East German state paid this year subsidies amounting to 13,000,000 marks towards church administration and the salaries of the clergy. In addition sums amounting to about 4,000,000 marks annually are paid to the church in lieu of large numbers of small obligations from municipalities and district bodies, many of them dating from medieval times.

The greater part of these subsidies goes to the Evangelical Church, which is much the largest in East Germany, but financial aid is also given to the Roman Catholic Church, the Evangelical Reformed Church, the Russian Orthodox Church, and the Jewish community.

In addition to these subsidies, grants have been made for the reconstruction of churches damaged or destroyed in the war. Aid amounting to 4,800,000 marks has been granted in the past five years for such restoration work.

A special grant of 925,000 marks was made to the Jewish community for the restoration of Jewish religious buildings and cemeteries destroyed by the nazis. With the aid of this grant a completely new synagogue was erected in Erfurt, and 15 devastated Jewish cemeteries were restored.

Other government support is given in the maintenance of theological faculties at five universities, and the payment of stipends to theology students.

THE TIMES
LONDON MONDAY OCTOBER 18 1954

RECOVERY IN EASTERN GERMANY

From Our Special Correspondent Lately in East Germany

. . . Life for the ordinary man and woman has been made much easier in the past eighteen months. Post-war recovery, though delayed longer than in west Germany, has gone far enough now to permit many relaxations. Rationing is easier, and prices a little lower. The State trading organisation makes an effort to please the consumer, and a "happier life" has become a stock part of the party slogans.

These relaxations have not gone so far as to produce anything like the air of exuberant prosperity that marks the outward life of west Germany. The towns of the German Democratic Republic still look shabby by comparison. No cost is spared on the big schemes of reconstruction, but old streets and private houses need new plaster and a coat of paint. The Great Garden at Dresden is splendid, and Frankfurt-on-Oder is laying out an agreeable belt of pleasure grounds among its ruins, but the great mass of private life is grey. Two or three makes of new car are being produced, but most of the cars on the roads are survivors from before the war, many of them looking deliberately neglected, as if in an effort to avoid the appearance of prosperty. People do not look starved, but they look tired, as if endlessly on their way home to bed from an eight-hour day.

Yet the deficiencies can be overstated. There has obviously been a great improvement from the depression of the first post-war years. If the external scene compares poorly with the urban life of western Europe today, it compares well with life in west Germany in, say, the first months of 1948 before the currency reform. The Soviet Zone is a few years behind in the race of recovery. Its accumulated wealth was always less than that of the west. Its industry was very heavily dismantled, and for a time important parts of its industrial output went to the Soviet Union as reparations. The new policy of planned investment, with the controlled allocation of resources, has gone ponderously to work and has made mistakes, some of which have been perceived and corrected after some loss of time.

The restaurants offer a tolerable variety of food and drink, and their fare, though less rich than in west Germany, is not bad. The beer, whic! is cheap, is getting better and in some places is very good. There are Balkan wines at rather high prices; Rhine and Moselle wines, which the German taste prefers, are very dear.

A fairly wide range of the objects of common use can be bought in the shops without difficulty. The bookshops are good. Many dismantled factories have been re-equipped and put to work again. Their order-books are over-full and supplies are not easy, but in general the flow of materials through industry has been restored, and factories are working at full stretch so far as the principal remaining shortage—the shortage of labour—will allow.

Expediency and creed alike impel the new managements in industry to do their best for their workers. Employment is more than abundant. The trade unions, lacking political or industrial independence, occupy themselves in bargaining for privileges and amenities for their members; better washrooms and rest-rooms, free physiotherapy, cheap rail fares, theatre tickets at reduced prices, places in the convalescent homes at Heiligendamm, where the nobility of Mecklenburg used to take the air of the Baltic.

The trade unions provide amenities themselves. Their federation maintains a chain of holiday centres at which trade union members take their paid holiday at heavily subsidised rates. Social insurance is costly and elaborate.

Agriculture, at first thrown into disorder by land reform, corrupted by an unsound currency, and starved of fertilizer and materials by the stagnation of industry, has been got working again, this time more firmly under State control.

Various forms of Socialist agricultural enterprise have been adopted to correct the economically retrograde effects of the land reform. Smallholding peasants are encouraged (or should one say forced?) to join together in cooperative units. A group of them may be given the land of some slightly bigger peasant, forced out of his property by legislation.

Some large agricultural properties are run directly by the State. A system of "machine tractor stations" is in operation on something like the Soviet model, offering tractor and harvesting services at about half their cost. The State, with its scorn of money as a yardstick, is open-handed in promoting an object it has at heart. The tractor services are no mere blue-prints — they exist. Yet a traveller accustomed to the English country-side will notice rather the numbers of peasants using the ancient methods of central Europe—a horse at the plough, a cart drawn by yoked oxen, a reaper with the scythe, a group of women on their knees lifting the potato crop. Agriculture has not been transformed, though the enthusiasts to whom tractors and Communism are inseparable will have it so. But it has been revived, and the flight of peasants to the west appears to have been arrested by making tolerable the situation of those who remain.

Perfectionism, not indifference, is the besetting fault. Alike in its efforts for economic expansion and for social welfare, the regime tries to do too much at once. The standards of the new publicly built housing are high, too high to allow houses to be produced as quickly as they are needed. Solidly built and embellished with architectural adornments, many of the new blocks of flats are elaborately finished, with expensive flooring and solid oak woodwork.

In the showpiece of new housing at Dresden, the two blocks going up in the Altmarkt, a family will have a roomy flat for between 45 and 70 marks a month, inclusive of heating. If he wants real coffee with his breakfast the tenant must pay 40 marks a pound; coffee is a luxury, oak parquet floors and tiled bathrooms are not.

The price system generally exhibits, to a western observer, the characteristics of amiable lunacy. This makes the task of assessing the real extent of recovery in the German Democratic Republic hard. But the recovery, in its arbitrary and uneven way, is unmistakable.

(The opinions expressed in this article are those of the Special Correspondent of the "Times", and do not necessarily coincide with the opinions of GERMAN REPORT.)

LOOKING FOR NEW QUISLING?

The Strange Case of the Nazi Envoy

Do you remember the original Quisling? He was a Norwegian fascist who was recruited by nazi diplomats to work for them in the 1930's and who, in 1940, did his best to betray his country to the Hitlerite troops.

Other countries have had their Quislings too, men who formed fifth columns ready to betray everything to the German fascists, and in the period preceding the nazi invasion they were given every help and assistance by the German nazis, often working through the German Embassies. Today many of these diplomatic nazis are back at important posts in the West German foreign service.

In Austria, the nazi fifth column was particularly strong. The Austrian nazi party was prohibited by the Austrian Government in 1933, but with help smuggled across the border from Germany it went on to undermine the country. In July 1934 Austrian nazis murdered Austrian Chancellor Dollfuss and staged an unsuccessful putsch; in 1938 they prepared the ground for the Hitlerite invasion of their country.

During the whole of this period, the illegal Austrian nazi party was working under the direct orders of the German nazi party: one of the main methods for transferring these orders was through the Nazi German Embassy in Vienna, situated at 3 Metternichgasse.

On July 8th 1933, the leadership of the illegal National Socialist Workers' Party of Austria sent the following letter to Germany:

"For internal political reasons we request that in future you address the mail to the German Embassy, 3 Metternichgasse, 3rd District, Vienna, for Herr Embassy Secretary Georg von Broich-Oppert. The letters will be sent on to us from there, since we are in regular contact with the Embassy."

This letter was addressed to the German citizen Ernst Grosch in Frankfurt/Main, who was working there as Albanian Consul, and was thus able to provide a "neutral" cover for the correspondence. A copy of the letter came into the hands of anti-nazi underground workers, and was smuggled out to France, where it was published in April 1934 in the book on the Reichstag Fire Trial, "Dimitroff Contra Goering", published by Editions du Carrefour.

If there had been any doubt as to the authenticity of the letter, Herr Georg von Broich-Oppert could have taken libel action against the publishers, or issued a denial. There is no record of any such action having been taken.

Herr von Broich-Oppert, who in 1933 was busily forwarding from Berlin to the illegal nazi party in Vienna, remained at his post there until 1938, one of the key men in the nazi policy of undermining and conquest of independent Austria.

He then left the diplomatic service, and until the end of the war he worked in a high position for the Berlin Commercial Bureau of IG Farben, the great chemical firm which made most of the explosives for the Wehrmacht, as well as the poison gas used in the extermination camps.

In 1949 he worked as personal assistant to West Berlin Mayor Ernst Reuter, and then received the post of West German Minister in Norway.

Would he by any chance be looking for a new Quisling to betray his country to a new German invasion? He has the right background for the job.

West German Small Ads

Former Wehrmacht officials will meet on Thursday, October 7th at 1800 hours for a social gathering in the "Hotel zum Schwan".

•

Former members of the 9th Hussars are requested to send their addresses, squadrons and years of service to district officer E. Wassel, 6 Landgraf Karl Straße, Wilhelmshoehe as preparation for the commemorative rally next year.

•

The Comrades Circle of former Manteuffel Dragoons will celebrate today, at 1900 hours in Hotel Vaterland the 45th anniversary of their foundation; long term veterans will be honoured.
(Kasseler Zeitung, West Germany, October 2nd 1954)

* * *

Former members of Regiment 167 will meet on Wednesday October 6th in the Roon Restaurant, 153 Frankfurter Straße.

•

Kassel section of the Association of German Soldiers will attend today at 2000 hours the meeting of the Society for Military Science in the Hessenland Hall. Colonel Faehndrich, Tuebingen, will speak on the subject "Militarism—Fantasy or Reality?"

•

Association of Former Members of the Afrika Korps. Annual meeting and re-election of the committee on Tuesday, October 5th at 2000 hours in Herkules Restaurant.
(Kasseler Zeitung, West Germany, October 4th 1954)

POST WANTED

Stellen-Gesuche

Persönlichkeit

Oberst der Luftwaffe a. D. — zuletzt Rüstungskommandeur, Jura-Studium — seit Jahren Vorstand eines bekannten Industrie-Unternehmens, sucht interessanten Wirkungskreis.

Gute Beziehungen auch bei Stellen, die beim Aufbau der Wehrmacht mitwirken. Vermögend — wirtschaftlich unabhängig — aus bester Gesellschaftskreis — repräsentatives Eigenheim — Vergütungshöhe nicht ausschlaggebend.

Offerten unt. Ku. D. 154 Der Tagesspiegel, Bln. W 15, Kurfürstendamm 188/89

Kaufmann

Personality

Colonel of the Luftwaffe (ret.)—last held post as Armament Commandant. Student of law, for many years director of a well-known industrial undertaking

seeks interesting sphere of activity

Good connections also with those circles assisting in the building of the Wehrmacht. Own capital—economically independent—from the best class of society —high-class house—rate of pay is not decisive.

Offers to Ku. D. 154, der Tagesspiegel, Berlin W 15, Kurfuerstendamm. 188/89

(From "Tagesspiegel" West Berlin, October 17th 1954)

VISITING LORD RUSSELL

By Gordon Schaffer

Lord Russell of Liverpool who was forced to resign his post as Asst. Judge Advocate General, because he insisted on going ahead with the publication of his book **Scourge of the Swastika,** lives in a beautiful part of Surrey about two miles from the village of Shere.

On my way I stopped to ask directions from a farm worker. I mentioned Lord Russell's name. His eyes lit up and he said:

"If you are seeing Lord Russell will you give him my congratulations, and the thanks of a simple soldier who did not fight the Nazis to see them put back in power again."

That simple response is typical of the way Russell's book has been received not only in Britain but all over the world. Ever since it became known that the Lord Chancellor and the Foreign Office presented him with an ultimatum either to suppress his book or give up his job and his pension rights, the letters have been pouring in.

Lord Russell and his wife, to whom he dedicated his book, showed me a pile of 600 letters that have come from all parts of the world. To each correspondent he has written a personal reply. Lady Russell handed me some photographs. One sent from Germany had a note attached. "This picture is an original taken from the Gestapo files." It shows a gaunt white-faced man, with Jewish features, on the edge of an open grave piled with bodies. A uniformed German is about to fire a revolver; on the edge of the grave other uniformed men stand watching.

The other pictures were even more terrible. They were reproductions of pictures taken at the murder camps. Each picture bore a serial number showing that they must have been published in large quantities; some were in the form of postcards. They showed victims being placed with great tongs into the ovens of the concentration camps. A British soldier sent them. He had bought them in Westphalia after the war. Lord Russell said:

"I have seen those camps. I cannot forget."

One letter from a German woman said:

"The anti-Nazis I meet seem to be afraid already to say what they think. They shrug their shoulders and say, 'Who knows what will be in five year's time? You have got to be careful.' "

A British soldier in Germany, with 16 years service, wrote:

"If our politicians were living at my level in Germany instead of visiting the country for a few days and having the wool pulled over their eyes by the 'peace-loving' Germans, they would, I am sure, see the high explosives they are playing with. We are hated with all the hate the Germans can muster, but I'm sure its being kept well-hidden until they have all they are scheming for. But at the ordinary man's level, it is often carelessly revealed."

The book is already in its fourth edition, and it is to be published in Italy, Norway, Holland, Denmark, Israel and the U. S. A French edition is being discussed; a serial version is appearing in Canada, South Africa, Australia and Czechoslovakia.

Lord Russell told me:

"The action of the authorities in trying to suppress my book has given it a world-wide publicity it would never have received in the ordinary way ... I had permission to write an historical book and, having a great deal of knowledge of these matters because I was responsible for the majority of the war crimes trials in the British Zone of Germany, I felt competent to write about them.

"I was not told that I could not write about German history. When I sent the manuscript to the Lord Chancellor, I was astonished to hear that in his view the book should not be published, because it might stir up hatred of the German nation as a whole, and would support those who most strongly oppose the policy of re-arming Germany.

"The book is a historic fact. The timing of its publication is not my responsibility."

When the House of Commons meets this month Harold Davies, M. P., will ask Prime Minister Churchill whether he agrees with the action of the Lord Chancellor (a member of Sir Winston's Cabinet). Many other members are determined to press for an answer. Apart from the general anger at the clumsy attempt to prevent the crimes of the Nazis being recalled, there is still a deep-rooted liberal tradition in Britain which deeply resents suppression of free speech.

Those who are backing the German re-armament fear Lord Russell's book because it is a simple historical document. Lord Russell writes in his book:

"That the Germans did not all yield [to Hitler] is not disputed. Had they done so there would have been no SS, no Gestapo. It was only by fear, torture, starvation and death that the Nazis eliminated at home the opponents of their regime, and it was in this way that these organisations of oppression gained the experience and the training later put into practice abroad with such thoroughness and brutality. The crimes which are described in this book were not haphazard; that must be self-evident from their very magnitude. They were the result of long-term planning. This has been proved beyond doubt, and the Germans themselves have provided unchallengeable evidence in the records."

That is Lord Russell's indictment. It is an indictment of Nazism and therefore an indictment of the industrialists, the generals and the politicians who backed Nazism and who are back in power in Western Germany today—and who are being wooed as allies by those who seek to re-create the Wehrmacht and to arm it with even more dangerous weapons.

(From "National Guardian", New York)

"Ununderstandable"

"The problem of the 'national partisans' who fought against the (nazi, ed.) German occupation soldiers and the officials of the civil administration is a very difficult question ... It has been proved that they often used the most brutal methods and did not even stop at murder. Whatever motives these partisans may have had, their actions were contrary to the Hague Convention, and thus illegal. We simply cannot understand how it came about, therefore, that a group of scouts from Cologne should lay a wreath in the Hague on a monument for fallen Dutch partisans, and that a representative of the scouts should hold a speech.

"In any case this German participation in a memorial for partisans appears to us to exceed all limits in self-demeanment."

"Rheinische Zeitung", West Germany, October 6th 1954

SONG OF THE GERMAN GENERALS

By Vic and Joan Marshall

Tune: The Vicar of Bray

IN Kaiser Wilhelm's Golden Days
Belligerence no harm meant,
All zealous militarists were we,
In this we showed discernment.
To teach the herd we never missed,
Wars are by God appointed,
And damned are those that dare resist,
Or oppose the Lord's anointed.

But this is law, that we maintain,
Until our dying day, sir.
That whatsoever Kaiser reign,
We still have the final say, sir.

•

THEN in the Weimar's Palmy Days
We found a new profession,
To represent the Fatherland
As the victim of aggression.
To tell the world we never missed
That we were not defeated,
But stabbed in the back by Jews and Reds,
Ad nauseam repeated.

But this is law, that we maintain
Until our dying day, sir.
That whatsoever party reign
We still have the final say, sir.

•

IN Adolf Hitler's Glorious Days
We found our true vocation,
To save the German Master Race
From Jewish desecration.
The Herrenvolk must not be mixed
With Slavs and such low races,
We sent them off to Auschwitz,
Dachau and suchlike places.

But this is law, that we maintain
Until our dying day, sir.
Let Fuehrers wax and Fuehrers wane,
We still have the final say, sir.

•

NOW in the Cold War's Icy Days
Democracy's the fashion.
United Europe is our cry,
We plead for it with passion.
Forget the past, inter the axe,
Let's all work in concordance,
While we prepare behind your backs
For the grand repeat performance.

But here's the fear that racks the brain,
That haunts us night and day, sir.
That all mankind will rise in rage,
And thunder the final say, sir.

(From "World News", London)

KILLERS UNLEASHED

War Criminals Sentenced to Death, Reprieved and Now Free

Name	Released from Prison
Field Marshal Albert Kesselring	October 1952
General Wendefeuer	February 1954
General Heinrich Bschirt	February 1954
General Eberhard von Mackensen	October 1952
General Rudolf Henrici	March 1953
SS General Kurt Meyer	September 7th 1954
SS Oberfuehrer Hans Loerner	February 1954
Colonel General Nikolaus von Falkenhorst	July 1953
SS Obersturmbannfuehrer Karl Sommer	January 1951
SS Colonel Franz Eirenschmalz	January 1951

War Criminals Sentenced to Life Imprisonment and Now Free

Field Marshal Wilhelm List	December 1952
Field Marshal Erhardt Milch	July 1954
General Alexander Andreas	January 1952
General Walter Kuntze	February 1953
SS General Prinz Josias zu Waldeck	December 1951
SS Obergruppenfuehrer August Frank	January 1951
SS Obersturmbannfuehrer Max Mummenthey	January 1951
SS Sturmfuehrer Hermann Pachen	January 1951

War Criminals Sentenced to Long Years of Imprisonment and Now Free

Luftwaffe General Wilhelm Speidel (20 years)	January 1951
SS General Gottlob Berger (25 years)	December 1951
Colonel General Lothar Rendulic (20 years)	December 1951
Field Marshal von Kuechler (20 years)	December 1953
SS Obersturmbannfuehrer Max Kiefer (20 years)	January 1951
SS Brigadefuehrer Hans Fanzlaw (20 years)	January 1953
Field Marshal Erich von Manstein (18 years)	May 1953
SS Obersturmbannfuehrer Hans Bobermin (15 years)	January 1951
General Helmut Felmy (15 years)	December 1951

N. B. This list gives the names of only a small proportion of the convicted war criminals who are now free in West Germany.

. . . PLUS ANOTHER ONE

SS General Hermann Reinecke, nazi war criminal sentenced to life imprisonment, was quietly released from Landsberg prison by the U. S. authorities at the beginning of October.

General Reinecke was sentenced to life imprisonment on October 27th 1948 by an American War Crimes Tribunal presided over by Judge John C. Young, former Chief Justice of Colorado Supreme Court.

The judgement described Reinecke as "the trusted and supine instrument of Hitler's will in any capacity". He was found guilty of issuing directives, in violation of the Hague Convention, for the massacre of Soviet prisoners and the deliberate use of French slave labour in German munitions factories; of sanctioning the "liquidation" of anti-Nazis, and of criminal responsibility for large-scale looting in the Soviet Union.

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

People in Britain who criticise the elections held in East Germany on October 17th and in particular the single list of candidates should remember a little British history. During the Second World War the main parties in Parliament all joined in a coalition to help win the war. Inter-party battles were suspended "for the duration", the General Election which was due in 1940 was postponed until 1945, and bye-elections were uncontested in the vast majority of cases.

Win the Peace

The five main parties which make up the Government in East Germany consider that it is just as important to "win the peace", and have decided against interparty strife while the present battle to mould a new peaceful Germany is on.

Since all parties are members of the national coalition (as in Britain during the war years), it is asking a bit much to urge them to put up opposition candidates just to ensure the rough and tumble of electoral battle. And I don't seem to remember any British Conservative, Liberal or Labour leaders in the war years calling for opposition candidates at bye-elections in the sacred name of democracy.

Figures

There is some exceedingly curious arithmetic going on in connection with the formation of the new West German Wehrmacht. According to the London agreement, the new Wehrmacht will be 500,000 strong, organised in 12 divisions.

According to figures published by the Amt Blank, the West German War Ministry, 80,000 of the men called up will go into the Luftwaffe, and 20,000 more into the navy. Which leaves 400,000.

Detailed figures of the numerical strength of the divisions published in the right-wing West German newspaper "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (No. 236) and elsewhere show:

a) 6 motorised divisions of 13,000 men = 78,000,

b) 4 panzer divisions of 12,600 men = 50,400,

c) 2 mechanised divisions of 12,700 men = 25,400.

And this makes a total of 153,800, and leaves the not inconsiderable number of 246,200 unaccounted for. Even if we knock off say 90,000 to account for general staff officers and other base personnel, there still seem to be enough left over to make another twelve full strength divisions.

So in fact, unless united action inside and outside Germany stops him, Adenauer and his cannon kings are all set to raise a force of 24 heavily armoured divisions.

Just for purposes of comparison it is interesting to note that this will be far stronger than the United States Army today, which consists of 17 divisions, only three of them armoured ("Time" New York, October 18th 1954).

And just incidentally, the most frequent argument heard in Britain for the formation of a West German Wehrmacht is that "East Germany already has an army". Even the British White Paper of July 12th 1954 on this subject, however, only claims that the Barrack-based People's Police has a strength of between 80,000 and 85,000. Even if we accept this figure for the sake of argument, a highly mechanised West German Wehrmacht 500,000 strong seems rather an elephantine answer to the supposed threat.

"Poor Refugee"

"Political Prisoners Flee" stated a headline in the West Berlin newspaper "Tagesspiegel" on September 16th. The story underneath, provided by the American news agency United Press stated in part:

"Two political prisoners have managed to break out of the East Berlin prison at Rummelsburg, and to flee to West Berlin. They were Hans Milenz, aged 35, and Horst Remus, aged 26... Remus declared that he had been sentenced to three and a half years imprisonment in 1952 for alleged incitement to boycott".

Who was this "political prisoner" Horst Remus in reality? The answer was given nearly one month later in an obscure paragraph on the back page of another West Berlin newspaper, the "Kurier". On October 14th the "Kurier" reported that Horst Remus had been arrested by West Berlin police. Remus has a whole list of previous convictions, and was being sought by the police for his part in two serious cases of armed robbery which he carried out together with his brother, who has already been sentenced by American and German courts to a total of 20 years imprisonment for attempted murder, aggravated robbery, 27 burglaries and prison mutiny.

Hitler's Fortune

Probably most readers, if they ever gave the matter any thought, believed that any property left by Adolf Hitler had been seized as reparations for some of the appalling crimes for which he was responsible.

I must say I certainly thought so. But according to West German newspaper reports the property of this arch-criminal is still intact and worth several million marks. The matter has come to light since Hitler's heirs — his sister Frau Wolf and the family of his last-minute wife, Eva Braun — are now taking legal steps to claim this property for themselves.

On October 15th a court at Berchtesgaden heard evidence to prove that Hitler is really dead.

After this news, I should really not be surprised if Hitler himself should drive up to the courtroom in a large black Mercedes car, claim his property, and drive on to Bonn for a cosy chat with West German Chancellor Adenauer.

Not Serious

The British "Manchester Guardian" of October 15th, commenting on Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov's visit to East Germany, stated in a leading article:

"Least of all, of course, is there any serious suggestion that Russia might withdraw her armed forces from Germany, or reduce them to token strength."

The argument would have more force if the "Manchester Guardian" could show that Britain or the United States had ever made any serious suggestion that they would withdraw their armed forces from Germany, or reduce them to token strength. And the paper quite ignores the fact that Mr. Molotov has repeatedly, most recently on October 6th, urged that all four occupation powers should agree to withdraw all their forces.

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